

ZSI E-News

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from the Director's Desk

Dear Colleagues and Esteemed Readers

It is with immense pleasure that I announce the successful publication of August 2024 edition of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) E-News. This newsletter marks a significant milestone in our continuous endeavors to highlight the remarkable progress achieved in faunal exploration, biodiversity assessments, species identification, wildlife research and conservation efforts across India. The relentless dedication of our scientists and field specialists in the most isolated regions of the country continues to shed light on the extraordinary biodiversity that exists within our borders. Each survey and exploration

uncovers new facets of India's rich natural faunal heritage, and through these efforts, we contribute significantly to global biodiversity conservation. This edition of our e-news provides a comprehensive overview of our latest discoveries, including numerous reports on new species and valuable insights into lesser-known animals and ecosystems.

Ms. Leena Nandan, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, visited the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) in Kolkata on 16th August 2024 to inaugurate the 'Centre for Wildlife Forensics & Conservation Genetics (C-WFCG)' facility, aimed at addressing wildlife crime and safeguarding India's biodiversity. During the High-Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) meeting of NIRANTAR on 9th August 2024, held at MoEF&CC in New Delhi, ZSI presented its progress, including the demonstration of the 'Fauna of India Checklist Portal' developed by the organization. Furthermore, ZSI marked a significant achievement in the conservation of rare and endangered faunal species by initiating a Field Trial on the Tagging of Horseshoe Crabs along the Odisha Coast, conducted on 18th August 2024, in Balasore, Odisha, as part of the ZSI-OFD Collaborative project. In an effort to enhance conservation strategies in the Indian Himalayan Region, ZSI organized a one-day consultative workshop on 22nd August 2024, in Guwahati, under the Phase-II Project funded by NMHS (LG), titled "Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of the Indian Himalayan Region Through Scaling Up Long-Term Monitoring, Securing Corridors, and Capacity Building". Additionally, ZSI, Kolkata, conducted a Regional Workshop on the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands under the Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern Region States at New Town, Kolkata, on 29th & 30th August 2024, which included a field visit to the East Kolkata Wetland. In celebration of India's 78th Independence Day, plant saplings were distributed to 50 underprivileged children as part of the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative. In the course of this month, researchers at ZSI have successfully identified a total of 1262 species across diverse faunal communities, which encompasses nine newly discovered species: two species of spiders, four species of apterygote, two species of hemiptera, and one species of hymenoptera. It is particularly significant that three species of hemiptera, four species of hymenoptera, one species of apterygote, and two species of acari have been newly recorded in India.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our research personnel, field biologists, and all those who played a role in the development of this publication. Your commitment to faunal research is truly commendable, and your findings continue to deepen our understanding of India's biodiversity. This e-news serves not only as a reporting platform but also as a testament to the unwavering dedication of the Zoological Survey of India in safeguarding our faunal heritage. Let us continue our efforts to achieve even greater discoveries in the months and years ahead.

Jai Hind,

Dr. Dhriti Banerjee

Director

5th September 2024

Kolkata

Cover: *Cinnyris asiaticus* (Latham, 1790).

Courtesy: FBRC, Hyderabad

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HEADQUARTERS, KOLKATA

Surveys were conducted to Nagaland, Mangalore, Kolluru, Udupi, Kudermukh, Dakshin Kanada, Tal Kaveri, Chikballapur, Mysore, Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest of West Bengal and Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary of Odisha. A total of 661 species of faunal communities including Acari, Arachnida, Apterygota, Chalcididae, Diptera, Formicidae, Hemiptera, Ichneumonidae, Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Acanthocephala, Nematelminthes, Platyhelminthes, Mollusca, Porifera, Cnidaria, Annelida, Echinodermata, and Aves were identified. Two species of Hemiptera, two

species of Arachnida and four species of Apterygota were described as new to science and two species of Acari and one species of Apterygota were reported as new to Indian fauna. Two species of Nematodes, five species Platyhelminthes and 33 species of Lepidoptera were augmented to National Zoological Collections. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Coastal Impact, Goa, Dr. J.A. Johnson, Scientist, WII, Dehradun, Cotton University, Pithabata South Wildlife Range, Simlipal South Wildlife Division, Odisha, Mahishadal Raj College and Custom House, Kolkata.



Director ZSI hoisting the National flag during 78th Independence Day celebrations



Observation avian diversity along riverine and coastal ecosystems of Balukhand-Konark Sanctuary, Odisha



Great Thick-knee (*Esacus recurvirostris*)

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

Survey was conducted to eastern Nagaland and a one-day survey was conducted to Umkaber village, Mawphlang, East Khasi Hills as requested by Meghalaya Biodiversity Board. A total of 81 species of faunal communities including Orthoptera, Odonata, Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Mollusca, Araneae, Pisces, and Amphibia were identified. Identification and Advisory services rendered to Department of Zoology, Assam Royal Global University. 78th Independence Day was celebrated. As a part of Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign, some plant saplings were distributed for plantation and saplings were planted in the office campus.



Plantation of saplings as a part of Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign



78th Independence Day celebration

WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

Survey was conducted to Kalsubai Harishchandragad Wildlife Sanctuary, Ahmed Nagar District, Maharashtra. A total of 90 species of faunal communities including Blattodea, Crustacea, Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Mollusca, Chilopoda, Scorpiones, and Pisces were identified. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Vankshetrapal, Pen (Savarkshan), Raigad District, Maharashtra, Department of Agricultural Entomology, College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Karnataka and to Department of Zoology & Research Centre, Shri Shiv Chhatrapati College, Pune.



Glimpses of Capacity Building Training Workshop



India's first tagging of horseshoe crabs, a living fossil, by ZSI scientists



Celebration of Independence Day

CENTRAL ZONE REGIONAL CENTRE, JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

A total of 68 species of faunal communities including Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, Mollusca, Pisces, and Amphibia were identified. 78th Independence Day of India हिन्दी विभाग of this centre organized celebration of birth anniversary of litterateur Munshi Prem Chand and Bankimchandra Chatterjee on 31st July 2024. Celebrated the वन महोत्सव under “एक पेड़ माँ क नाम” and planted saplings for developing a मातृ वन at CZRC, ZSI, Jabalpur residential campus on 26th August 2024.



CZRC, Jabalpur organized एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला on “संघीय कार्य के सन्दर्भ में राजभाषा प्रयोग के प्रसार की दशा एवं दिशा” on 23rd August 2024



CZRC, Jabalpur celebrated the वन महोत्सव under “एक पेड़ माँ क नाम” and planted saplings on 26th August 2024 for developing a मातृ वन at CZRC, ZSI, Jabalpur residential campus.



Celebration of 78th Independence Day

DESERT REGIONAL CENTRE, JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

A total of 68 species of faunal communities including Gastropoda, Insecta, and Pisces were identified. All the officials participated in the tree plantation under the campaign “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” on 23rd August 2024 at the Centre. Independence Day and tree plantation was also done on 15th August 2024. Selfie Points installed at various places under Mission LiFE during the month of August 2024.



Independence Day celebration



Plant sapling at DRC, Jodhpur on 15th August 2024 under campaign “#Plant4mother”, Ekpedmaakenaam

NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A total of 63 species of faunal communities including Phthiraptera, Orthoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Pisces, Amphibia and Reptilia were identified. “MISSION LIFE activities an initiative of MoEFCC, GoI” conducted by planting saplings and awareness activities Save Water, Save Energy and Cleanliness to common public at Kaulagarh Market, Dehradun on 7th August 2024; by planting Fruit tree saplings in “MATRI VAN of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun” with M. Sc. Forestry Students & Faculty of FRI (Deemed to be University), Dehradun under Government of India campaign “एक पेड़ माँ के नाम/Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” at Dehradun, Uttarakhand on 14th August 2024. Independence Day was celebrated by Flag hoisting on 15th August 2024 and also conducted “Har Ghar Tiranga” awareness campaign by distributing Indian National Flags to install on the top of houses in the ZSI Residential Complex houses and to the common public of Dehradun from 9th to 15th August 2024. Special Campaign 3.0 Swachhta/Cleanliness awareness drive was conducted in and around the office campus and around Kaulagarh Market, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.



HIGH ALTITUDE REGIONAL CENTRE, SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH

Surveys were conducted to Lahaul Valley and Agroecosystem of District Mandi of Himachal Pradesh. A total of 49 species of faunal communities including Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera, Orthoptera, Neuroptera, and Trichoptera were identified. Identification and advisory services were rendered to Department of Fruit Science, Punjab Agricultural University and Post Graduate Govt. College, Chandigarh Govt College Hamirpur. Independence Day and Har Ghar Trianga was organized from 13th to 15th August 2024. Centre organized the event “Ek Ped ma ke Naam” on 24th August 2024 at village Tehal, Near Chambaghat and at Salogra Railway Station, Salogra. Under Mission LiFE people were made aware to make clean and green of their environment. Selfies on selfe stand were also taken to promote environment health.



Ek ped ma ke naam event organised by ZSI, Solan on 23rd August 2024 at village Tehal and Salogra, Solan



Celebration of Independence Day

MARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU

Three one-day surveys were undertaken to the Kasimedu fish landing centre in Chennai. A total of 59 species of faunal communities including Arthropoda, Sponges, Foraminifera, Mollusca, Nematode, and Pisces were identified during this month. The achievements of the 'Coral Translocation Project' and 'Coral Restorations using Bio-rock' were presented at the event 'Policy Dialogue on Mangrove and Coral Restoration in Maharashtra: Multi-stakeholder consultations on global best practice toward mangrove and coral restoration', organised by Mangrove Cell, Maharashtra State on 31st July 2024. Identification and advisory services rendered to Vivekananda Institute of Tropical Mycology Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Staff and Scientists of the centre participated in the Independence Day celebration.



Amblygobius semicinctus (Bennett, 1833)



Independence Day celebration

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR REGIONAL CENTRE, PORT BLAIR

Two surveys were conducted to North and Middle Andaman and Nancowry group of Islands and local field surveys conducted Burmanallah; Kodyaghat; Chidiyatappu; Chatham, South Andaman, Kalatang; Nayasagar; Shoal Bay; Ograbraj, South Andaman. A total of 101 species of faunal communities including Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Odonata, Scleractinia, Decapoda, Stomatopoda, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified. Identification and advisory services rendered to Department of Environment and Forest, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. A one-day museum visit was organized on 29th August 2024 for the students of Sangritara School, Port Blair. 78th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre. Received administrative approval for establishment of EIACP Centre on Island Biodiversity from the MoEF&CC, Government of India from this financial year onwards in ANRC, ZSI, Port Blair.



Olive tree Skink *Dasia olivacea* Gray, 1839



Branching coral: *Acropora muricata* (Linnaeus, 1758) at Great Nicobar



Visit of students from Sangritara school



SUNDERBAN REGIONAL CENTRE, CANNING, WEST BENGAL

A total of 45 species of faunal communities including Mollusca, Crustacea, and Pisces were identified. Two DNA sequences were uploaded. Har Ghar Tiranga program organized and national flags distributed to the staff members. Independence Day Competition was organized with Bandhumahal Association on 15th August 2024 and indoor plants were distributed to the staff members.



Celebration of Independence Day



"Ek Ped Maa ke naam" campaign

FRESHWATER BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

One Survey was conducted to study the wetland fauna of three Ramsar sites of Madhya Pradesh (Sirpur lake, Yashwanth sagar and Sakhya sagar). A total of 104 species of faunal communities including Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Mollusca, and Pisces were identified. Mission LiFE and Swachhta Hi Seva Special Campaigns 3.0 were conducted to generate awareness among people.



Ek Ped Maa ke Naam



Funambulus pennantii pennantii Wroughton, 1905

WESTERN GHAT REGIONAL CENTRE, KOZHIKODE, KERALA

Survey was conducted to Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. A total of 82 species of faunal communities including Testate amoebae, Mantodea, Hymenoptera Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Chilopoda, Arachnida, and Pisces were identified. One species of Hymenoptera was described as new to science and four species of Hymenoptera were recorded as new to Indian fauna. 78th Independence Day was celebrated in the centre.



3 days Internship Programme of MSc students of University of Calicut



Celebration of Independence Day

ESTUARINE BIOLOGY REGIONAL CENTRE, GOPALPUR-ON-SEA, ODISHA

A total of 86 species were identified. Deep dwelling oxudercid goby *Ctenotrypauchen chinensis* Steindachner 1867 was documented for the first time from the Indian Ocean. Six DNA barcodes belonging to six species were uploaded in the NCBI data base. Dr. T. T. Ajith Kumar, Principal Scientist & Head, Centre for Peninsular Aquatic Genetic Resource, ICAR-NBFG, Dr. Jitendra Kumar Sundaray, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar and Dr. Manish Kumar, Principal Scientist, CSIR-IMMT visited the centre during the month. The office organized “Har Ghar Tiranga” programme on 13th August 2024. Teachers from Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir, Gopalpur visited the museum of the centre on 27th August 2024 and were sensitized regarding various research activities and projects being carried out at the centre. Students along with teachers from Gurukul International Public School, Berhampur visited the centre on 29th August 2024.



Ctenotrypauchen chinensis Steindachner 1867



Independence Day celebration



Teachers of Saraswati Vidya Mandir visiting the facilities at EBRC

ARUNACHAL PRADESH REGIONAL CENTRE, ITANAGAR, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

A total of 124 species of faunal communities including Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, Pisces, Amphibia, and Reptilia were identified. Identification and advisory services were rendered to SFRI, Govt. Of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, Patkai Christian College, Dimapur, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Arunachal Pradesh. The Centre organised a tree plantation programme under the mission “Ek ped ma ki nam” on 5th August 2024 and 19th August 2024. The Centre hoisted the Indian Tricolour Flag on 15th August 2024. The Centre conducted Mission LiFE with State Wildlife Board member, Shri Niti Changrowju on 2nd August, 2024. The scientists of the Centre attended the Foundation day of BSI, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, on 8th August 2024



Celebration of 78th Independence day



Ek per ma ki nam at the residence of Honorable Minister of Forest Gov of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Wangki Lowang ji on 5th August 2024



Officer-in-Charge, APRC, ZSI, Itanagar presenting a memento to Shri Pema Khandu, CM of Arunachal Pradesh on 15th August 2024

MARINE AQUARIUM AND REGIONAL CENTRE, DIGHA, WEST BENGAL

Surveys were conducted in Digha and adjacent areas of West Bengal along with local surveys to Udaypur and Champa estuary of West Bengal. A total of 79 species of faunal communities including Mollusca, Polychaete, Nematoda, Crustacea, and Pisces were identified. Forest Guards from State Forest Training Institute, Kharagpur, West Bengal and students from Ramnagar College visited the centre during the month. Palm and Neem tree sapling plantation program for establishing “Matri Van” under the tree planting campaign organized in the office campus on 16th August 2024. 78th Indian Independence Day was celebrated at the centre along with campaigning of “Har Ghar Tiranga”, the National Flag was distributed to all staff members, research scholars, and contractual staff on 13th August 2024.



“Har Ghar Tiranga” The National Flag was distributed to all staff members, research scholars, and contractual staff on 13th August 2024.



Perna viridis Linnaeus, 1758



Matri Van under the tree planting campaign organized on 16th August 2024

NEW DISCOVERIES

NEW SPECIES



Polemistus jaferi Tessy, Girish Kumar & Sureshan, 2024
(Hymenoptera: Crabronidae)



Mimetus parvulus
Sankaran, Sudhin & Sen, 2024



Mimetus spinatus Sudhin,
Sankaran & Sen, 2024



Tomocerus indica sp. nov.



Pogonognathellus himalayensis sp. nov.



Pogonognathellus sikkimensis sp. nov.



Cyphoderus bihariensis sp. nov.

NEW RECORDS



Polemistus fukuitoi Tsuneki, 1992



Polemistus sumatrensis (Maidl, 1925)



Polemistus tridentatus Tsuneki, 1992



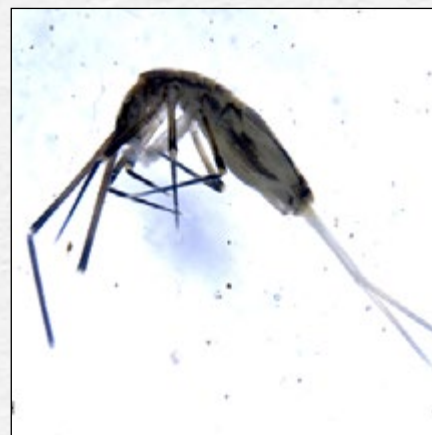
Taeniogonalos taihorina (Bischoff, 1914)



Hypoaspis busoli



Hypoaspis blattae



Callyntrura (Callyntrura) insignis (Imms, 1912)

PUBLICATIONS

PAPERS

- Acharya, S., Tudu, P.C., Patro, S. and Mohapatra, A. 2023. Two new occurrence records of bivalve species with the first report of the Genus *Lutraria* Lamarck, 1799, along the Odisha coast from Bahuda estuary. *Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences*, 52(12): 605–607.
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21. Sudhin, P. P., Sankaran, P. M. and Sen, S. 2024. Two new species and a new transfer in the pirate spider genus *Mimetus* Hentz, 1832 (Araneae: Mimetidae: Mimetinae) from India. *Zootaxa*, 5496(4): 555-566.
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POPULAR ARTICLE

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2. Ghosh, A. 2024. The State of the Art Report on Animal Resources of India: Platyhelminthes
3. Palot, M.J. 2024. *Keralathile Chithrashalabha Deshadanam* (Butterfly Migration) *Aranyam*. (A magazine of Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department), 44 (9&10): 42-47.

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MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Scientist – G and Director, Zoological Survey of India, was conferred with the Honoris Causa Degree of Doctor of Science in the field of Life Sciences. The award was conferred by Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, on their 5th Convocation on 31st August 2024 in the presence of H. E. Shri Ramen Deka, Hon'ble Governor of Chhattisgarh; Justice Shri Prashant Kumar Mishra, Judge, Supreme Court of India; Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Chhattisgarh; Shri Tokhan Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India; Shri Arun Sao, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Chhattisgarh. To combat

wildlife crime & protect India's biodiversity, Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, MoEFCC, Govt. of India visited ZSI Kolkata on 16th August 2024 to inaugurate the 'Centre for Wildlife Forensics & Conservation Genetics (C-WFCG)' facility. After the inauguration a meeting was convened under the chairpersonship of secretary, MoEFCC. All the Officers-In Charge of Regional Centres attended the meeting through virtual mode. Director, ZSI was invited as Guest Speaker for the talk show on "Climate Change and We" and at Fest5 International Film Festival held at Bhasha Bhawan, National Library Auditorium, Kolkata on 3rd August 2024, following the screening of the landmark German documentary "System Change," a talk show was also held featuring WBPCB Chairman Dr. Kalyan Rudra, and former Chief Wildlife Warden of West Bengal Pradeep Vyas. They discussed the profound impacts of climate change on human beings, biodiversity, and wildlife, with a focus on big cats; attended a High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) of NIRANTAR, on 9th August 2024 in MoEFCC, New Delhi, where 'Fauna of India Checklist Portal' developed by ZSI was also showcased in the ministry during the meeting; attended National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) governing body members meeting for the selection of next set of the directors in NCSM, Kolkata on 13th August 2024; addressed an Inception Workshop-cum-Field Trial on Tagging of Horseshoe Crabs along Odisha Coast organized on the aegis of ZSI-OFD-Collaborative project on Horseshoe Crab jointly organized by Zoological Survey of India & Wildlife Wing of Odisha Forest Department 18th August 2024 in Balasore, Odisha; addressed to an Inaugural Session of a National Webinar on World Mosquito Day-2024 on 20th August, 2024 on virtual mode organised by EIACP Centre on Biodiversity (Fauna) ZSI, Kolkata; Looking at advancing conservation strategies in the Indian Himalayan Region, the Zoological Survey of India hosted a One-day consultative Workshop on 22nd August 2024 in Guwahati, under the NMHS (LG)-funded Phase-II Project titled "Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of the Indian Himalayan Region Through Scaling Up Long-Term Monitoring, Securing Corridors, and Capacity Building." Discussions were focused on establishing biodiversity corridors, understanding large mammals' genetic composition, and assessing the effectiveness of protected areas in the IHR; spoke on ZSI's commitment towards tackling the challenges faced by threatened mammalian fauna in the IHR. She also emphasised the importance

of involving local communities, forest staff, and students in conservation efforts and building capacity among stakeholders. Dr. S. Sathyakumar, Scientist-G & Registrar, WII, Dehradun, who was the Chief Guest underscored the need for integrating local forest departments and researchers in long-term biodiversity monitoring. The event concluded with valuable input from stakeholders, refining the project's objectives and implementation strategies for successful conservation outcomes in the region. Under the Convocation Weekly Ceremony on 28th August 2024; addressed virtually to a One-day National Seminar "Vikasit Bharat @2047 Ke Liye Vigyan Men Rajbhasha" jointly organized by Central Region Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. During this visit of Director ZSI to ABVV, Bilaspur, to enhance scientific research and academic collaboration, MoU signing ceremony was organized between Zoological Survey of India and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur. Attended a Regional Workshop on Conservation and Wise-Use of Wetlands under Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern Region States at New Town, Kolkata on 29th August 2024. The Recreation Club of ZSI celebrated the 3-year completion of Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, the first Woman Director of ZSI. All Regional Centres were part of the felicitation virtually. It was announced that henceforth 6th August will be celebrated as the ZSI Women's Day; on the occasion of 78th Independence Day celebrations Director ZSI presented saplings to 50 underprivileged children as part of Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Initiative.

2. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-F, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, provided reply on request to update an Action Taken Report for the actionable points identified in the review meeting of Crisis Management Plan of MoEFCC; provided reply on provisionally admitted Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Diary No. 293 on Measures for Shoreline Protection; Chaired the assessment of PDF, SRF, JRF and JPF of Zoological Survey of India as on 5th August 2024; attended meeting with Dr. Senthikumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu in connection with the allocation of land for SRC and MBRC, ZSI on 7th August 2024; attended a High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) of NIRANTAR on 9th August 2024 at MoEFCC, New Delhi; attended a Regional Workshop on Conservation and Wise-Use of Wetlands under Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern

Region States at New Town, Kolkata on 29th August 2024.

3. Dr. Anil Kumar Dubey, Scientist E, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, attended online meeting with MoEFCC, New Delhi on 1st August 2024 for reviewing of ZSI Website sensitive data protection on faunal resources of India and report submitted.
4. Dr. Anil Mohapatra, Scientist-E, EBRC, Gopalpur, had attended the IUCN Red List Assessor Training Workshop held during 26th – 30th August 2024 at Central National Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, West Bengal, Organized by BSI and ZSI.
5. Dr. Atanu Naskar, Scientist C, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, has attended a meeting at ABV University, Bilaspur from 30.08.2024 to 31.08.2024.
6. Dr. Avtar Kaur Sidhu, Scientist-E, HARC, Solan, acted as external examiner and evaluated the M. Sc. Zoology Thesis on the topic “Efficacy of Titanium Dioxide Nanoparticles Against the Larvae of Fruit Fly” of Akal College of Basic Sciences, Eternal University, Baru Sahib, District Sirmour, HP and send the report on 05.08.2024.
7. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E, ANRC, Port Blair, attended five day IUCN Red List Assessor training course organized by ZSI, BSI and IUCN from 26th to 30th August 2024 at Kolkata; attended the Airfield Environment Management Committee meeting on 5th August 2024 under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Civil Avian, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Port Blair; attended meeting with Dr. Senthikumar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu in connection with the allocation of land for SRC and MBRC, ZSI on 7th August 2024; attended meeting the Dr. K. Sivakumar, Associate Professor, Annamalai University, Parangipettai in connection with the ongoing collaborative research works on 10th August 2024; served as Vice Chancellor Nominee for selection of Guest Faculties for the Department of Management Studies, Pondicherry University, Port Blair Campus on 12th August 2024; attended the inaugural function of the International Conference on Applied Research in Engineering, Technology and Management organised by Pondicherry University, Port Blair campus on 16th August 2024; served as expert member for selection of project personnel in the ongoing research project at Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair on 21st August 2024; served as member review the Technical Staff for in-situ proposal at Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair on 29th August 2024 (Online); served as Doctoral Member of the review the examiners comments for the research scholar at Department of Ocean Studies and Marine Biology, Pondicherry University, Port Blair on 23rd August 2024.
8. Dr. Deepa Jaiswal, Scientist-E & Dr. Karuthapandi, Scientist – D, FBRC, Hyderabad, attended one day workshop on Wetland under Sahbhagita Mission for Southern Region States organized by Wetland Division of MoEFCC at Hyderabad on 13th & 14th August 2024.
9. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-E, NRC, Dehradun, attended meeting with Prof. (Dr.) Pratap Singh, Ornithologist, Dunger College, Bikaner, Rajasthan discussed on educational visit and internship of students of Dunger College at ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 07 August, 2024; attended online meeting with The Director, ZSI, Kolkata on 8th August, 2024 and conducted Monthly Meeting with the Officer and Staff of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun in the Conference Hall of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 23rd August, 2024.
10. Dr. Kamal Saini, Scientist-B, HARC, Solan, acted as judge in Science carnival organized by the South vale School, Solan (HP) on 13th August 2024.
11. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E, CZRC, Jabalpur, attended 14th meeting of नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति, कार्यालय क्र.-2 in Jabalpur on 24th July 2024; attended review meeting for departmental cases at Survey of India, Jabalpur on 25th July 2024, as member for ICFRE outstanding Award at TFRI, Jabalpur for their employees; attended Hindi Rashtriya Vigyan Sammelan-2024 on 30th -31st July 2024 at AMPRI-CSAI, Bhopal and co-chaired a session of presentation.
12. Dr. R. Chandran, Scientist – C, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, has attended a virtual expert consultation meeting entitled “mapping India’s Bule Forest Ecosystems: Exploring their status, challenges, resilience and preservation” organized by Climate RISE Alliance & SaciWATERS on 1st August 2024.
13. Dr. R. H. Raina, Scientist- E, DRC, Jodhpur, conducted practical examination and acted as an External Examiner for M.Sc.- Zoology Sem II & IV Practical on 29th August and 31st August, 2024 at J.N.V. University, Jodhpur.

14. Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Scientist – E, MARC, Digha, participated as guest of Honor for the Inaugural function of newly installed facilities and Commemorating “27th Anniversary 2024” on 31st August 2024 @ 10.30 AM, organized by Digha Science Centre, Ministry of Culture, Digha; attended an interactive meeting with the Director, ZSI, organized by ZSI, Kolkata, through hybrid mode, on 8th August 2024; attended the Assessment of Research Fellows under the chairmanship of DZSI through hybrid mode on 5th August 2024.
15. Dr. S.D. Gurumayum, Scientist – E, APRC, Itanagar, attended “At Home Party celebration” hosted by Honourable Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu at the State Guest house, in the presence of His Excellency, Guv of AP on 15th August 2024; invited for an external interviewer by GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment, Itanagar with regard to recruitment of JRF on 20th August, 2024; attended an interview on earthworm Migration for Nature Magazine on 2nd August, 2024.
16. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist – C, CZRC, Jabalpur, attended meeting with Mr Darshan Gattani, IFS about joint programme of Hindi Pakhwara at TFRI and ZSI Jabalpur on 19th August 2024; AGM of Vigyan Bharti on 10th August 2024 at ICMR, NIRTH, Jabalpur; meeting at IIITDM Jabalpur with the Dean Academics on 22nd August 24.
17. Dr. Shelley Acharya, Scientist – E, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, participated in the “Regional Workshop on Conservation and Wise use of Wetlands” under Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern Region States Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha & West Bengal organized by MoEF and CC from 29th -30th August 2024 at Taj Taal Kutir, New Town, Kolkata.
18. Dr. Souvik Sen, Scientist – E, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, attended 3rd Meeting of High-powered Steering Committee of NIRANTAR at MoEF&CC, New Delhi, on 9th August 2024; attended the launch workshop of NMHS-funded project ‘Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of The Indian Himalayan Region’ at Guwahati on 22nd August 2024 and acted as a coordinator for the two days Sahbhagita Regional Workshop on “Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands” for Eastern States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West-Bengal) organised by Wetland Division of MoEF&CC, New Delhi during 29th - 30th August 2024 at Kolkata.
19. Dr. Tamal Mondal, Scientist-D, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, provided reply on request to update an Action Taken Report for the actionable points identified in the review meeting of Crisis Management Plan of MoEFCC as required by the MOEF&CC through ZSI/HQs; provided reply on provisionally admitted Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Diary No. 293 on Measures for Shoreline Protection as required by the MOEF&CC through ZSI/HQs; attended a meeting on Action Taken Report for the actionable points identified in the review meeting of Crisis Management Plan of MoEFCC with the administrative ministry on 1st August 2024; attended the assessment of PDF, SRF, JRF and JPF of Zoological Survey of India as one of the expert member on 5th August 2024; attended a Workshop on Standardization for Environment and Ecology being organized on 12th August 2024 by Bureau of Indian Standards at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi; attended 27th RAC meeting for review of the research proposals received from different Organizations / individuals to conduct the study in different PAs of Odisha under the Chairmanship of PCCF(WL), Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Odisha on 20th August 2024; attended the inaugural ceremony of IUCN Red List Assessor training on 26th August 2024 at Central National Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India; attended 2nd Sahbhagita workshop on “Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands” for Eastern States/UT during 29th -30th August 2024 at Taj Taal Kutir, Kolkata and participated in field survey tour at East Kolkata Wetland.
20. Dr. V.D. Hegde, Scientist-E, WGRC, Kozhikode, attended 28th Local Advisory Committee meeting of Regional Science Centre and Planetarium, Kozhikode on 1st August 2024 through online mode.
21. Smt. Jennifer Lyngdoh, Scientist – E, & Dr. Uttam Saikia, Scientist - D, NERC, Shillong, attended the Launch Workshop for the Project “Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of the Indian Himalayan Region through scaling up long-term, securing corridors and capacity building” on 22nd August 2024 at Guwahati.
22. Dr. Imran Alam, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI, HQ, Kolkata, attended two days’ workshop on “Regional Workshop on Conservation and Wise use of Wetlands” under Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern Regional States – Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal from 29th & 30th August 2024 organized by MoEFCC, New Delhi Hosted by Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata. Mrs. Susmita Khanra, SZA and Mr. Amartya Pal, SRF, ZSI, HQ attended a Symposium on 23rd August, 2024 at Department of Zoology in University of Calcutta.

TRAININGS ORGANIZED

1. A Capacity Building Training Workshop was organized by WRC, Pune on “Methods in Faunal Collection, Preservation and Identification” from 12th to 16th August 2024.
2. A three-day training program was organized by WGRC, Kozhikode for the 3rd semester Applied Zoology MSc students of the University of Calicut from 28th to 30th August as part of the MoU between ZSI & University of Calicut.
3. A Workshop-cum-Field Trial on “First time tagging of horseshoe crab, a living fossil” was organized by the WRC, Pune along with the Wildlife Wing of the Odisha Government, at the Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha on 18th August 2024.
4. APRC, Itanagar organized a training course for identification and taxonomy of Grasshoppers to Miss Kh. Nandita Devi of DM College of Science, Imphal from 21st – 30th August 2024 under the guidance of Dr. G. Srinivasan, Scientist – E.
5. Dr. S.R. Patil, Scientist-B, WRC, Pune, provided training on “Collection, preservation and taxonomic identification of Araneae (spider) specimens” to three Ph.D. students of the Fergusson College, Pune, under the Savitribai Phule Pune University.
6. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist – C, CZRC, Jabalpur provided training to Ms Archana Sagar, Sr. Zool Asstt from HARC, ZSI, Solan from 12th to 23rd August 2024, guided Mr. Atul Kuamr pandey, Research scholar Amarkantak University on Entmofauna of Narmada river, M.P and Miss. Ritu Pandey, Research scholar Jawaharlal Nehru, Krishi University, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh on Entmofauna of Narmada River, M.P.
7. Two seminars were organized by SbRC, Canning, in two different schools in Canning under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam by ZSI-SbRC and 250 saplings distributed to the school students in G.N. Harinarayani Vidyapith Hr. Sec. School and Jr. High School, Taldaha Shikari Para on 13th & 28th August 2024.
1. ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur organized एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला on “संघीय कार्य के सन्दर्भ में राजभाषा प्रयोग के प्रसार की दशा एवं दिशा” was organized on 23rd August 2024 in presence of invitees form Railways and TFRI, Jabalpur.

TRAININGS ATTENDED

1. Dr. Basudev Tripathy, Scientist-E, ZSI, WRC, Pune,

attended the Workshop-cum-Field Trial on “First time tagging of horseshoe crab, a living fossil” at the Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha on 18th August 2024.

2. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-E and Dr. Archana Bahuguna, Scientist-E, ZSI, NRC, Dehradun had participated in the “IUCN RED LIST Assessor Training Workshop” jointly organized by ZSI and BSI through MoEFCC and IUCN INDIA office at Central National Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Botanical Garden, Howrah, Kolkata from 26th to 30th August, 2024.
3. Dr. Indu Sharma, Scientist-E, ZSI, DRC, Jodhpur, attended the training entitled “IUCN RED LIST ASSESSOR TRAINING WORKSHOP” jointly organized by ZSI & BSI through MoEF&CC at Central National Herbarium, BSI, Botanical Garden, Kolkata from 26th to 30th August, 2024.
4. Dr. S.D. Gurumayum, Scientist-E, ZSI, APRC, Itanagar, attended a Launch Workshop for the Project “Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of the Indian Himalayan Region through Scaling Up Long-Term Monitoring, Securing Corridors, and Capacity Building” on 22nd August 2024 at Guwahati, Assam.
5. Dr. Uttam Saikia, Scientist-D, ZSI, NERC, Shillong attended the IUCN Red List Assessor Training programme organized by IUCN India, BSI and ZSI at CNH, BSI Kolkata between 26th -30th August

LECTURES DELIVERED

1. Dr. A. S. Kalawate, Scientist-E, ZSI, WRC, Pune, delivered an invited talk titled “Research trends and gap in scarab beetle status in India” at 2nd European Scarab Symposium on 26th August 2024 organised by Natural History Museum, Vienna, Austria.
2. Dr. Basudev Tripathy, Scientist-E, Dr. Aparna S. Kalawate, Scientist-E, Dr. K.P. Dinesh, Scientist-E, Dr. S.S. Talmale, Scientist-C, Dr. Md. Jafer Palot, Scientist-C, Dr. S.R. Patil, Scientist-B and Dr. S.K. Pati, Assistant Zoologist from ZSI, WRC, Pune, attended and delivered lecture-cum-practical on various topics in the Capacity Building Training Workshop on “Methods in Faunal Collection, Preservation and Identification” organized by the Zoological Survey of India, Western Regional Centre, Pune from 12th to 16th August 2024.
3. Dr. Boni Amin Laskar, Scientist-E, ZSI, HARC, Solan,

delivered, a lecture on the topic “Freshwater Fish: Collection, Preservation and Identification” in virtual mode at the workshop on Methods in Faunal Collection, Preservation and Identification organized by WRC, Pune held on 12th August 2024.

4. Dr. C. Sivaperuman, Scientist-E, ZSI, ANRC, Port Blair, delivered a talk on Proplanet strategies for quality life: Mitigating Climate Change and preserving Biodiversity as a part of Quality Improvement Programme in the Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital; & Manakula Vinayagar Institute of Technology, Puducherry on 9th August 2024.
5. Dr. D. S. Suman, Scientist-E, ZSI, EBRC, Gopalpur, delivered a special lecture on “Mosquito: identification, surveillance and management with emphasis to dengue vectors” on 20th August 2024 on World Mosquito Day, in a National Webinar organized by the EIACP Centre, ZSI and a special talk on Mosquito borne disease and management at DAV School Berhampur on 31st August 2024.
6. Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Scientist-E, ZSI, NRC, Dehradun, delivered lecture on topic entitled “Status of Faunal Diversity and their conservation in India” to M. Sc. Environment Management Course Students (2024-26 Batch) of Forest Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Dehradun, Uttarakhand held in the conference hall of ZSI, NRC, Dehradun on 7th August 2024; delivered lecture under The “Gol-NIRANTAR initiative” on topic entitled “Status of Faunal Diversity, their conservation and data collection in India” in the “Training Programme for Zonal Officers of FSI” organized and held at the conference hall of Forest Survey of India, HQs., Dehradun on 8th August 2024; delivered lecture on topic entitled “Status of Faunal diversity and Protected Animals of India” to 42 M. Sc. students (2024-26 batch) and Faculty of Uttaranchal University, Dehradun on 20th August 2024.
7. Dr. J. S. Yogesh Kumar Scientist - E and Dr. Prabhakar Rai Scientist – C, ZSI, SbRC, Canning gave lecture in two seminars organized in two different schools under the program entitled Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam G.N. Harinarayani Vidyapith Hr. Sec. School (13.08.2024) and Jr. High School, Taldaha Shikari Para (28.08.2024), Khari Machan, Amjhara, Canning.
8. Dr. K.P. Dinesh, Scientist-E, ZSI, WRC, Pune delivered an online talk on “Basics of Amphibian Taxonomy and Amphibian Diversity in India” to the students of M.Sc. Wildlife and Conservation of the Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune on 17th August 2024, followed by an onsite training on “Amphibia collection and identification” at the foot hills of Tamhini Ghat on 22nd August 2024.
9. Dr. P. S. Bhatnagar, Scientist-E, ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered lecture on “कार्यालय में नोटिंग” in one day workshop on Hindi on 23rd August 2024, a lecture during a training programme on parataxonomy in Skill development in Para-taxonomy & biodiversity conservation training organized by Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board, Raipur on 2nd & 3rd August 2024.
10. Dr. Sanjay D. Paunekar, Scientist-E, ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered lecture on importance of Insect (Moths: Lepidoptera) at ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur in one day workshop on Hindi on 23rd August 2024.
11. Dr. Sandeep Kushwaha, Scientist – C, ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on “Science and Rajbhasha” during one-day workshop, a lecture on “Entomofauna diversity of Chhattisgarh, India” in Skill development in Para-taxonomy & biodiversity conservation training organized by Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board, Raipur on 2nd and 3rd August 2024; on “Insect diversity of Bhopal district, Madhya Pradesh” in two days national Hindi Science conference on 30th-31st July 2024; on effect of environmental condition on faunal diversity of forest area of Jabalpur on 10th August 2024 at ICMR, NIRTH, Jabalpur.
12. Mr. Manoj Kumar Meena, Scientist-B, ZSI, NERC, Dehradun, delivered a lecture on “Studies on the Insect diversity in India” to 42 M. Sc. Zoology students (2024-26 batch) and Faculty of Uttaranchal University, Dehradun on 20th August 2024.
13. Mr. Akhil Nair, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI, CZRC, Jabalpur, delivered a lecture on “तितलियों का पर्यावरण से संबंध” during हिन्दी कार्यशाला।
14. Shri. Sreejith S. Kumar, Assistant Zoologist, ZSI, WGR, Kozhikode, delivered a lecture on “Freshwater Biology” to the students of the Gifted Children Programme of Thamarassery Educational District organized by Department of General Education, Government of Kerala on 18th August 2024 and on “Freshwater Biology” at the Rain camp conducted by Vaghdananda edu project organized at Sargalaya Craft Village on 10th August 2024.

PHOTO GALLERY



Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI as Guest Speaker for the talk show on “Climate Change and We” and at Fest5 International Film Festival held at Bhasha Bhawan, National Library Auditorium, Kolkata on 3rd August 2024.



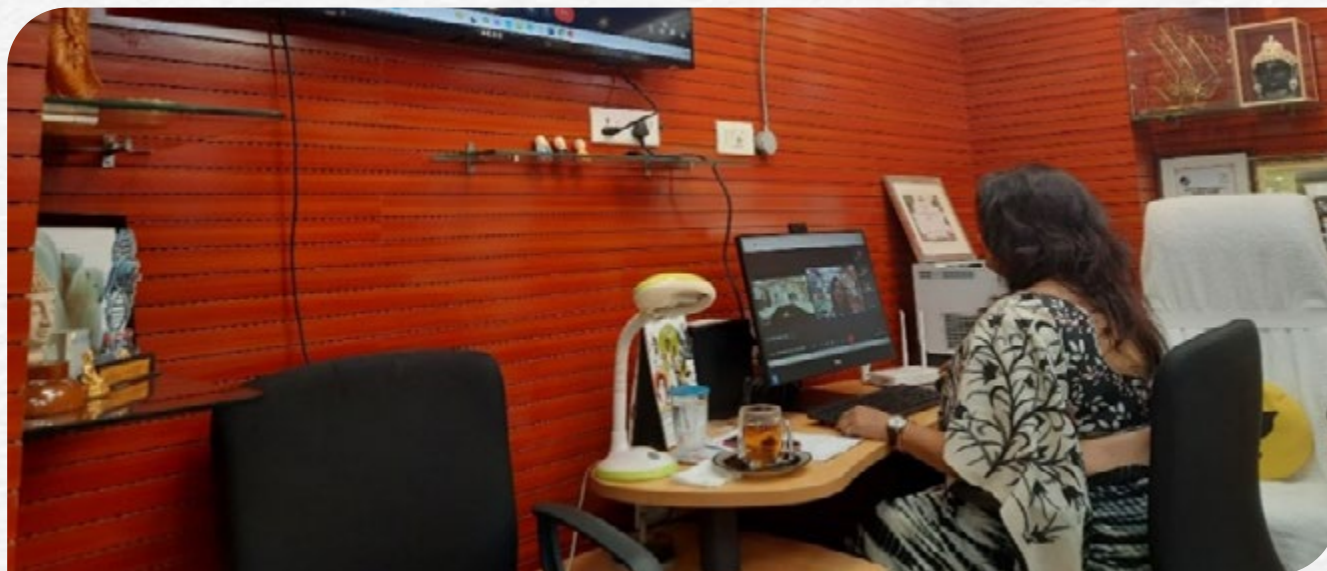
Celebration of the 3-year completion of Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, the first Woman Director of ZSI.



78th Independence Day celebrations Director ZSI presenting saplings to 50 underprivileged children as part of Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Initiative.



Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, MoEFCC, Govt. of India visiting ZSI Kolkata on 16th August 2024 to inaugurate the 'Centre for Wildlife Forensics & Conservation Genetics (C-WFCG)' facility.



Director ZSI addressed to an Inaugural Session of a National Webinar on World Mosquito Day-2024 on 20th August 2024 on virtual mode organised by EIACP Centre on Biodiversity (Fauna) ZSI, Kolkata.



A One-day consultative Workshop on 22nd August 2024 in Guwahati, under the NMHS Project titled “Conservation of Threatened Mammalian Fauna of the Indian Himalayan Region Through Scaling Up Long-Term Monitoring, Securing Corridors, and Capacity Building.”



Director, ZSI attended a Regional Workshop on Conservation and Wise-Use of Wetlands under Sahbhagita Mission for Eastern Region States at New Town, Kolkata on 29th August 2024.





Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), was conferred with the Honoris Causa Degree of Doctor of Science in the field of Life Sciences. The award was conferred by Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, on their 5th Convocation on 31st August 2024, in the presence of H. E. Shri Ramen Deka, Hon'ble Governor of Chhattisgarh; Justice Shri Prashant Kumar Mishra, Judge, Supreme Court of India; Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Chhattisgarh; Shri Tokhan Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India; Shri Arun Sao, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.



MoU signing between Zoological Survey of India and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur.